CANCELED CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 19 and 20.

CLEAN COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

1.   (Amended) A method of maintaining the state of a virtual connection supported by an active connection manager on a standby connection manager comprising:

configuring the standby connection manager to include a physical machine object that stores a physical IP address of a physical machine that is available to the active connection manager and a virtual machine object that stores a virtual IP address of a virtual machine that is implemented on the active connection manager;

receiving a replication packet at the standby connection manager from the active connection manager wherein the replication packet includes a foreign IP address, the virtual IP address and the physical IP address; and

storing a standby connection object in the standby connection manager that includes the foreign IP address, the virtual IP address and the physical IP address from the replication packet.